

### REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action dated April 21, 2004 in which the Examiner objected to claim 1, rejected claims 1-9 and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 and objected to claims 10-12 and 16 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

As indicated above, a typographical error in claim 1 has been corrected. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment is unrelated to a statutory requirement for patentability and does not narrow the literal scope of the claim. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner approves the correction and withdraws the objection to claim 1.

As indicated above, objected to claim 10 has been incorporated into claim 1 and objected to claim 12 has been incorporated into claim 4. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that rejection to claims 1-9 and 13-15 no longer applies. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 1-9 and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. §103.

Since objected to claims 11 and 16 depend from allowable claims, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the objection thereto.

Thus it now appears that the application is in condition for reconsideration and allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner find that the application is not now in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner enters this Amendment for purposes of appeal.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact, by telephone, the applicant's

undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

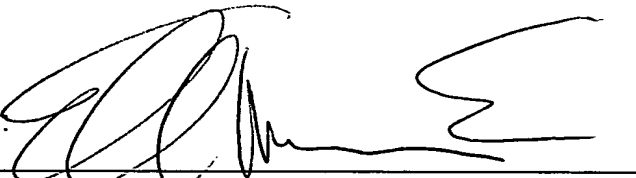
In the event that this paper is not timely filed within the currently set shortened statutory period, applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such extension of time may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

In the event that any additional fees are due with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: July 21, 2004

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